

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 FEA-02 INT-08 SCI-06 AID-20 EB-11

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 FRB-02 XMB-07

OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01 DRC-01 /193 W

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R 241440Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2730

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMCONSUL TANGIER

C O N F I D E N T I A L CASABLANCA 329

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, MO

SUBJECT: MOROCCANIZATION OF FOREIGN OIL COMPANIES

REF: CASABLANCA 328

1. IN ADDITION TO POINTS REFTEL IN MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR APRIL 20, ESSO REP RAISED POINT REGARDING POSSIBILITY THAT AMERICAN OIL COMPANIES MAY BE IN VIOLATION OF SHERMAN ANTI-TRUST ACT IF COMPANIES ARE 50 PERCENT-OWNED BY GOM ENTITY SOCIETE NATIONALE DES PRODUITS PETROLIERS, AND STATED THAT ANTI-TRUST QUESTION CRUCIAL TO ESSO'S DELIBERATION AS TO WHETHER THEY WILL COMPLY WITH DAHIR. SUBSEQUENT TO MEETING WE LEARNED FROM MOBIL REP THAT IN 1962 ESSO ACCEPTED ANTI-TRUST CONSENT DECREE WHICH REQUIRED MODIFICATION OF ITS OVERSEAS PRICING PRACTICES, HENCE IS VERY SENSITIVE TO POSSIBILITY OF BEING IN VIOLATION OF DECREE. MOBIL AND TEXACO NOT PARTIES TO DECREE, SO IN LESS DIFFICULT POSITION.

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THEY NEVERTHELESS SENSITIVE TO PROBLEM AND ASSUME THAT

THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CONSENT DECREE ARE APPLICABLE TO THEIR OPERATORS. GIVEN THIS SITUATION, WE SUSPECT THAT THE OIL COMPANIES MAY WELL INTERJECT ANTI-TRUST QUESTION IN THEIR DISCUSSIONS WITH GOM AS BARGAINING POINT FOR ACCEPTABLE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MOROCCANIZATION.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY GUIDANCE OR COMMENTS AVAILABLE ON ANTI-TRUST IMPLICATIONS OF GOM PLAN AS BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR AMBASSADOR IN HIS FORTHCOMING TALKS WITH GOM OFFICIALS AND ALSO FOR OUR BACKGROUND IN TALKING TO REPS OF AMERICAN COMPANIES.
BRUBECK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, NATIONALIZATION, ANTITRUST
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CASABL00329
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740097-0247
From: CASABLANCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740419/aaaaaqej.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: CASABLANCA 328
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 AUG 2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOROCCANIZATION OF FOREIGN OIL COMPANIES
TAGS: ENRG, MO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005